

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
TENTATIVE LIST OF ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES

"It should be noted that this list is very broad in its covering of essential industries and, in our opinion, will be subject to revisions from time to time depending upon the degree of emergency and requirements of the situation. Any publicity given to this list should carry such a statement concerning the breadth of its coverage."

U. S. Department of Commerce

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Criteria

1. Activities directly engaged in the production of war materials.
2. Activities necessary for the maintenance of the production of war materials included in 1 above.
3. Activities essential for the maintenance of national safety, health, and interest.

In general, essential activities are identified by broad categories. The group and industry numbers shown refer to the code numbers in the Standard Industrial Classification Manual of the Executive Office of the President, Bureau of the Budget. That manual may be referred to for a detailed list of the industries included under each group.

Manufacturing Industries

Major Group 19 - Ordnance and Accessories

Includes establishments engaged in manufacturing artillery, small arms, and related equipment; ammunition; tanks and tank parts; sighting and fire-control equipment, and miscellaneous ordnance and accessories, not elsewhere classified.

Major Group 20 - Food and Kindred Products.

Includes establishments manufacturing foods and beverages for human consumption, and certain related products such as manufactured ice, chewing gum, and prepared feeds for animals and fowls.

Major Group 21 - Tobacco Manufactures

Includes establishments engaged in manufacturing cigarettes, cigars, smoking and chewing tobacco, and snuff, and in stemming and redrying tobacco. The manufacture of insecticides from tobacco byproducts is included in Major Group 28.

Major Group 22 - Textile Mill Products, excluding lace goods (2292).

Includes establishments engaged in performing any of the following operations, regardless of the type of fiber used: (1) manufacturing yarn, thread, cordage, and twine; (2) manufacturing woven fabric, carpets and rugs, braids, knit fabric, knit garments, and other products from yarn; (3) dyeing and finishing fibers, yarn and fabric; and (4) coating, waterproofing, and otherwise treating fabric.

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Major Group 23 - Apparel and Other Finished Products Made from Fabrics and Similar Materials, excluding fur goods (237), robes and dressing gowns (2384), curtain and draperies (2391), pleating, stitching, and tucking for the trade (2395), embroideries, except schliffi-machine (2398).

Includes establishments producing clothing and related fabricated products by cutting and sewing purchased woven or knit fabrics. All types of textiles are utilized, as well as leather, rubberized fabrics, and other materials.

Major Group 24 - Lumber and Wood products (except Furniture) excluding mirror and picture frames (2493).

Includes logging camps engaged in cutting timber and pulpwood; merchant sawmills, veneer mills, lath mills, shingle mills, cooperate-stock mills, planing mills, and plywood mills engaged in producing lumber and wood basic materials; and establishments engaged in manufacturing finished articles made entirely or mainly of wood or wood substitutes.

Major Group 25 - Furniture and Fixtures, excluding reed and rattan furniture.

Includes establishments engaged in manufacturing household, office, (2513) public-building, professional, and restaurant furniture, office and store fixtures, and window and door screens and shades.

Major Group 26 - Paper and Allied Products

Includes the manufacture of pulp primarily from wood, and from rags and other fibers; the conversion of these pulps into any kind of paper or paperboard; and the manufacture of paper and paperboard into converted paper products such as coated paper, paper bags, paper boxes, cards, and envelopes.

Major Group 27 - Printing, Publishing, and Allied Industries, excluding greeting cards (277).

Includes establishments engaged in printing, publishing, and lithographing; and those performing services for the printing trades such as bookbinding, type-setting, engraving, photoengraving, and electrotyping. This group also includes publishers regardless of whether or not they do their own printing. News syndicates are classified in service industries.

Major Group 28 - Chemicals and Allied Products

Includes establishments producing basic chemicals, and establishments manufacturing products by predominantly chemical processes. Establishments classified in this major group manufacture three general classes of products: (1) basic chemicals such as acids, alkalies, salts, and organic chemicals; (2) chemical products to be used in further manufacture such as synthetic fibers, plastics materials, crude animal and vegetable oils, dry colors, and pigments; and (3) finished chemical products to be used for ultimate consumption such as drugs, cosmetics, and soaps; or to be used as materials or supplies in other industries such as paints, fertilizers, and explosives.

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**Major Group 29 - Products of Petroleum and Coal.**

Includes establishments refining crude petroleum and manufacturing coke and coke-oven products, paving and roofing materials, and other products made from petroleum and coal. Establishments manufacturing and distributing gas to consumers are classified in public utility industries.

**Major Group 30 - Rubber Products.**

Includes establishments manufacturing from natural or synthetic rubber, gutta percha, balata, or gutta siak, all kinds of rubber products such as tires, rubber footwear, mechanical rubber goods, and rubber sundries. This group also includes establishments manufacturing reclaimed rubber or rebuilt and retreated rubber tires.

**Major Group 31 - Leather and Leather Products, excluding house slippers (3142),**

Includes establishments engaged in tanning, currying, and finishing hides and skins, and establishments manufacturing finished leather and artificial leather products and some similar products made of other materials.

**Major Group 32 - Stone, Clay, and Glass Products, excluding china decorating for the trade (3265), and statuary and art goods (3298).**

Includes establishments engaged in manufacturing flat glass and other glass products, cement, structural clay products, pottery, concrete and gypsum products, cut-stone products, abrasive and asbestos products, etc., from materials taken principally from the earth in the form of stone, clay, and sand.

**Major Group 33 - Primary Metal Industries.**

Includes establishments engaged in the smelting and refining of ferrous and nonferrous metals from ore, pig, or scrap; in the rolling, drawing, and alloying of ferrous and nonferrous metals; and in the manufacture of castings, forgings, and other basic products of ferrous and nonferrous metals.

**Major Group 34 - Fabricated Metal Products (except Ordnance, Machinery and Transportation Equipment).**

Includes establishments engaged in fabricating ferrous and nonferrous metal products such as tin cans and other tinware, hand tools, cutlery, general hardware, nonelectric heating apparatus, fabricated structural metal products, metal stampings, lighting fixtures, fabricated wire products, and a variety of metal products not elsewhere classified.

**Major Group 35 - Machinery (Except Electrical)**

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Includes establishments engaged in manufacturing machinery and prime movers other than electrical equipment (Major Group 36). Machines powered by built-in or detachable electric motors ordinarily are included in this major group, with the exception of electrical household appliances (Major Group 36). Portable tools, both electric and pneumatic powered are included in this major group, but hand tools are classified in Major Group 34.

**Major Group 36 - Electrical Machinery, Equipment and Supplies.**

Includes establishments engaged in manufacturing machinery, apparatus and supplies for the generation, storage, transmission, transformation, and utilization of electrical energy. The manufacture of electrical household appliances is included in this group, but machinery and equipment powered by built-in or detachable electric motors is classified in Major Group 35.

**Major Group 37 - Transportation Equipment.**

Includes establishments engaged in manufacturing equipment for transportation of passengers and cargo by land, air, and water. Important products produced by establishments classified in this major group include motor vehicles, aircraft, ships, boats, railroad equipment, transit equipment, and miscellaneous transportation equipment such as motorcycles, bicycles, and horse-drawn vehicles. Includes, also, manufacturing components and repair parts for the above items of equipment.

**Major Group 38 - Professional, Scientific, and Controlling Instruments:  
Photographic and Optical Goods; Watches and Clocks.**

Includes establishments engaged in manufacturing mechanical measuring laboratory, and scientific instruments; optical instruments and lenses; surgical, medical, and dental instruments, equipment, and supplies; ophthalmic goods; photographic equipment and supplies; watches and clocks.

**Major Group 39 - Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries, excluding games and toys (3941); dolls (3942); feathers, plumes and artificial flowers (3962), (but including downs); lamp shades (3987); furs, dressed and dyed (3992); signs and advertising displays (3993).**

Includes establishments primarily engaged in manufacturing products not classified in any other manufacturing major group. Industries in this group fall into the following categories: jewelry, silverware and plated ware; musical instruments; pens, pencils, and other office materials; buttons, miscellaneous notions, fabricated plastics products; brooms and brushes; morticians' goods; and other miscellaneous manufacturing industries.

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Non-Manufacturing

Major Group 01. - Farms, excluding horticultural specialties (0114) and noncommercial farms (0121).

Includes commercial farms.

Major Group 07. - Agricultural Services and Hunting and Trapping, excluding horticultural services (0731) and hunting and trapping, and game propagation (0741)

Includes establishments primarily engaged in performing agricultural, animal husbandry, and horticultural services on a fee or contract basis.

Major Group 08. - Forestry.

Includes establishments primarily engaged in the operation of timber tracts, forest nurseries, and related activities, such as reforestation services and the gathering of gums, barks, balsam needles, maple sap, Spanish moss, and other forest products.

Major Group 09. - Fisheries.

Includes establishments primarily engaged in commercial fishing; the operation of oyster farms and the tonging and dredging of oysters; the gathering of sponges, seaweed, etc.; and the operation of fish hatcheries or fishing preserves.

Major Group 10. - Metal Mining.

Includes establishments primarily engaged in mining, developing mines, or exploring for metallic minerals (ores). These ores are valued chiefly for the metals contained to be recovered for use as such or as constituents of alloys. In addition, ores of rare-earth metals and titanium are included. This major group also includes all ore dressing and beneficiating operations whether performed at mills operated in conjunction with the mines served or at mills, such as custom mills, operated separately. These include mills which crush, grind, wash, dry, sinter, or leach ore, or perform gravity separations or flotation operations.

Major Group 11. - Anthracite Mining.

Includes establishments primarily engaged in producing anthracite (hard coal). Mining operations, dredging operations, and preparation plants, such as cleaning plants, breakers, and washeries, whether or not such plants are operated in conjunction with the mines served, are included.

Major Group 12. - Bituminous Coal and Lignite Mining

Includes establishments primarily engaged in producing bituminous coal or lignite. Mining operations, dredging operations, and preparation plants, such as cleaning plants, breakers, and washeries, whether or not such plants are operated in conjunction with the mines served, are included.

Major Group 13. - Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Extraction.

Includes establishments primarily engaged in producing crude petroleum, natural gas, natural gasoline, and cycle condensate. Types of activities included are exploration, drilling, well operation and maintenance, and the operation of natural gasoline and cycle plants. The group includes emulsion breaking and desilting of crude petroleum performed to render the oil marketable.

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Major Group 14. - Mining and Quarrying of Nonmetallic Minerals, Except fuels.

Includes establishments primarily engaged in mining or quarrying, developing mines, or exploring for nonmetallic minerals, except fuels. Also included are certain well and brine operations, and primary preparation plants, such as those engaged in crushing, grinding, washing, or other concentration, except as indicated below.

Major Group 15. - Building Construction - General Contractors.

Includes general contractors primarily engaged in the construction of residential, farm, industrial, commercial, public, or other buildings.

Major Group 16. - Construction Other Than Building Construction - General Contractors.

Includes general contractors engaged in the construction of engineering projects, such as highways and streets, bridges, sewers, railroads, irrigation projects, flood control projects and marine construction, and miscellaneous types of construction work other than buildings.

Major Group 17. - Construction - Special Trade Contractors.

Includes establishments specializing in activities such as plumbing, painting, plastering, and carpentering. Special trade contractors may work on subcontract from the general contractor, performing only part of the work covered by the general contract, or they may work directly for the owner. Special trade contractors for the most part perform their work at the site of construction although they also may have shops where they perform work incidental to the site job.

Major Group 40. - Railroads.

Includes companies furnishing transportation by line-haul railroad, and certain services allied to rail transportation, such as sleeping and dining car service, railway express, and switching and terminal companies.

Major Group 41. - Local and Interurban Railways and Bus Lines.

Includes the operation of interurban, suburban, and urban street railway, rapid transit systems and trolley coach and motor bus systems, operated separately or in various combinations. Companies engaged in furnishing transportation to local scenic features, including cable and cog railways, are also included.

Major Group 42. - Trucking and Warehousing.

Includes establishments furnishing local or long distance trucking, transfer, and draying services, or engaged in the storage of farm products, furniture and other household goods, or commercial goods of any nature. The operation of terminal facilities for handling freight is also included.

Major Group 43. - Street and Highway Transportation, Not Elsewhere Classified.

Includes companies or agencies furnishing passenger transportation by motor vehicle, such as intercity bus lines, school transportation services, etc.

**Major Group 44 - Water Transportation.**

Includes companies engaged in freight and passenger transportation on the open seas or inland waters, and companies furnishing such incidental services as lighterage, towing, and canal operation.

**Major Group 45 - Transportation by Air**

Includes companies engaged in furnishing domestic and foreign transportation by air and also those operating airports and flying fields and furnishing terminal services. Companies primarily engaged in performing services which may incidentally use airplanes (crop dusting, aerial photography, etc.) are classified according to the service performed.

**Major Group 46 - Pipe Line Transportation.**

Includes companies engaged in the pipe line transportation of petroleum and natural gas.

**Major Group 47 - Services Incidental To Transportation.**

Includes companies furnishing services incidental to transportation such as forwarding and packing services, arrangement of transportation, and the operation of stockyards.

**Major Group 48 - Telecommunications.**

Includes companies furnishing point-to-point communication services, whether by wire or radio, and whether intended to be received aurally or visually. Services for the exchange or recording of messages are also included.

**Major Group 49 - Utilities and Sanitary Services.**

Includes systems engaged in the generation, transmission, or distribution of electricity or gas, and the distribution of water or steam. Systems engaged in the collection and disposal of wastes, such as garbage and sewage, by means of destroying or processing materials are also included.

**Major Group 50 - Wholesale Trade - Merchant Wholesalers, excluding beer, wine, and distilled alcoholic beverages.**

Includes establishments usually known as wholesalers, merchant wholesalers, or jobbers, primarily engaged in buying, taking title to, and where customary, physically storing and handling goods, and selling the goods at wholesale, principally to retailers and industrial and commercial users. This group also includes industrial distributors, exporters, and importers, cash-and-carry wholesalers, drop shippers, wagon distributors, etc. The establishments included in this group may perform operations on the goods incidental to the wholesale trading and delivery, such as installing machinery, equipment, and fixtures; and collecting and bailing waste materials.

Separately incorporated sales subsidiaries of manufacturing and mining companies are included in this major group.

**Major Group 51 - Wholesale Trade, Other Than Merchant Wholesalers.**

Includes four general types of wholesale establishments: (1) sales branches and sales offices of manufacturing and mining companies, (2) petroleum bulk stations, (3) agents and brokers, and (4) assemblers of farm products.

Manufacturers' sales branches frequently install machinery, equipment, or apparatus sold by them, and are sometimes engaged in leasing or renting machinery or equipment. Such activities are considered a part of the normal wholesale functions, and are included in this major group.



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**Major Group 52. - Retail Trade - Building Materials and Farm Equipment.**

Includes retail establishments selling lumber, building materials, and basic lines of hardware, such as tools, builders' hardware, paint and glass, electrical supplies, roofing materials, and other equipment and supplies for home construction. This major group also includes farm equipment dealers. Establishments included in this major group sell to contractors as well as to the general public.

**Major Group 53. - Retail Trade - General Merchandise.**

Includes retail stores which sell a number of lines of merchandise, such as dry goods, apparel and accessories, furniture and home furnishings, small wares, hardware, and food. The stores included in this group are known as department stores, variety stores, dry goods stores, general merchandise stores, general stores, etc. Mail order houses in the general merchandise field are included as a kind of business.

**Major Group 54. - Retail Trade - Food, including Candy, Nut and Confectionary Stores (5441).**

Includes retail stores primarily engaged in selling food for home preparation and consumption.

**Major Group 55. - Automotive Dealers and Gasoline Service Stations.**

Includes retail dealers selling new and used automobiles and trucks, and new parts and accessories; and gasoline service stations. This group includes establishments dealing in used automobiles exclusively, but not establishments dealing exclusively in used parts (Group 593). Automobile repair shops maintained by establishments engaged in the sale of new automobiles are also included.

**Major Group 56. - Retail Trade - Apparel and Accessories, excluding Furriers and Fur Shops (568)**

Includes retail stores primarily engaged in selling clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, and related articles for personal wear and adornment.

**Major Group 57. - Retail Trade - Furniture, Home furnishings, and Equipment,**

Includes retail stores selling goods used for furnishing the home, such as furniture, floor coverings, draperies, glass and chinaware, domestic stoves, refrigerators, and other household electrical and gas appliances. Establishments selling electrical and gas appliances are included in this group only if the major part of their sales consist of articles for home use.

**Major Group 58. - Retail Trade - Eating and Drinking Places.**

Includes retail establishments selling prepared foods and drinks for consumption on the premises, and also lunch counters and refreshment stands selling prepared foods and drinks for immediate consumption.

**Major Group 59. - Retail Trade - Miscellaneous Retail Stores, excluding liquor stores (5912), antique stores (5932), sporting goods stores (5952), jewelry stores (5971), florists (5992), gift novelty and souvenir shops (5997).**

Includes retail stores, not elsewhere classified. These stores fall into the following subgroups: (1) drug stores, (3) secondhand stores, (4) book and stationery stores, (5) bicycle shops, (6) farm and garden supply stores, (8) fuel and ice dealers, and (9) miscellaneous retail stores not elsewhere classified.

Major Group 60 - Banking

Includes institutions which are engaged in deposit banking or closely related functions, including fiduciary activities.

Major Group 61 - Credit Agencies Other than Banks

Includes establishments engaged in extending credit in the form of loans but not engaged in deposit banking.

Major Group 62 - Security and Commodity Brokers, Dealers, Exchanges, and Services, excluding Security Brokers and dealers (621), security and commodity exchanges (623), and services allied with the exchanges of securities or commodities (628).

Includes commodity contract brokers and dealers and security flotation companies.

Major Group 63 - Insurance Carriers

Includes life, accident and health, fire and marine casualty, surety, title and other companies operating as underwriters of insurance.

Major Group 65 - Real Estate, excluding real estate operators and lessors (651), agents, brokers and managers (653), subdividers and developers (655), operative builders (656).

Includes title abstract companies only.

Major Group 70 - Hotels, Rooming Houses, Camps, and Other Lodging Places, excluding seasonal hotels (7012), sporting camps and recreational camps (7032).

Includes commercial establishments and institutions engaged in furnishing lodging and meals.

Major Group 72 - Personal Services, excluding "photographic studios, including commercial photograph," (723) and barber and beauty shops (724).

Includes establishments primarily engaged in providing services generally involving the care of the person or his apparel, such as laundries, cleaning and dyeing plants, and cleaning and pressing shops.

Major Group 73 - Miscellaneous Business Services

Includes establishments rendering services not elsewhere classified to business enterprises on a fee or contract basis.

Major Group 75 - Automobile Repair Services and Garages.

Includes establishments primarily engaged in furnishing automobile repair, rental, and storage services to the general public.

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**Major Group 76 - Miscellaneous Repair Services**

Includes establishments engaged in miscellaneous repair services. It does not include some repair services of which the more important are automotive repair which is classified in Group 753, custom work in Industries 5671 and 5681, and shoe repair in Industry 7251.

**Major Group 77 - Radio Broadcasting (Including Facsimile Broadcasting) and Television.**

Includes radio and television stations primarily engaged in activities involving the dissemination of radio communications, either aural or visual, intended to be received by the public through receiving sets, and networks primarily engaged in activities involving the transmission of program material by wire or radio to stations serving as network outlets. Radio stations and networks engaged in the sale of time for broadcast purposes, and the furnishing of program material or services are also included.

**Major Group 78 - Motion Pictures**

Includes establishments producing and distributing motion picture films, exhibiting motion pictures in commercially operated theaters, and furnishing services to the motion picture industry.

**Major Group 80 - Medical and Other Health Services**

Includes establishments engaged in providing medical, surgical, and other health services to persons. Associations or groups formed primarily to provide medical or other health services to their members are included if the services are supplied by the establishment itself rather than by independent physicians or hospitals under contract.

**Major Group 81 - Legal Services**

Includes establishments engaged in offering legal advice or legal services on a contract or free basis, the head or heads of which are members of the bar.

**Major Group 82 - Education Services**

Includes establishments furnishing formal academic or technical courses, correspondence schools, commercial and trade schools, and libraries.

**Major Group 84 - Museums, Art Galleries, and Botanical and Zoological Gardens**

Includes museums, art galleries, and botanical and zoological gardens.

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Major Group 86 - Nonprofit Membership Organizations, excluding civic, social, and fraternal associations (8641), and nonprofit membership organizations not elsewhere classified (8699).

Includes organizations operating on a nonprofit membership basis for the promotion of the interests of the members, such as trade associations; professional membership organizations; labor unions and similar labor organizations; and political, charitable, and religious organizations.

Major Group 89 - Miscellaneous Services

Includes establishments engaged in rendering services, not elsewhere classified, such as those rendered by engineers, architects, artists, lectures, and writers. This major group also includes nonprofit educational and scientific research agencies.

Major Group 90 - Government

Includes Federal, State, and local governments. Agencies classifying government establishments industrially within this major group are urged to use the industry definitions provided for Major Groups 01-89 wherever applicable, pending the development of a definitive classification for all government activities.